This took six days of day and night travel, owing to unfortunate conditions, and I found upon my arrival that incubation had been going on for some time, and the neural folds had nearly completed their coalescence.

While it is possible to get several chapters of value in the life-history from the material secured, it will be necessary to make another trip and a more prolonged stay next summer to get the more important early stages.

Biological Laboratory, Williams College,
July 12, 1888.

—*Zoologischer Anzeiger*, No. 290, October 8, 1888, p. 568.

On a new Cyamus *parasitic on the Cachalot.*

By M. G. Pouchet.

Hitherto we have very little knowledge of the parasites of the Cachalot. The animal which grounded in 1874 near Ancona bore *Penellæ*. Bennett and Scammon speak of *lice*, but up to last year M. Lütken had been unable to procure any. The author, who accompanied Prince Albert of Monaco in the 'Hirondelle,' was enabled, by the kindness of Mr. S. W. Dabney, to examine a Cachalot while it was being cut up at Lagens (Isle of Pico). He found three kinds of parasites:—1. In the first stomach a great number of Nematoid worms mixed with the beaks and crystalline lenses of Cephalopods; 2. A Cestoid worm encysted in the fat and also very abundant; 3. On the surface of the body a new *Cyamus*, for which he proposes the name of *C. physeteris*.

The resemblance presented by this *Cyamus* to other species of the same genus, especially that which lives on *Megaptera boops*, has no doubt led to the whalers having omitted to collect the *louse* of the Cachalot, which has thus remained undescribed. It is, however, at once distinguished by its numerous short branchiæ arranged in tufts on each side of the second and third (free) segments; their length does not exceed the antero-posterior diameter of the segments. By its head, which is intimately united with the first segment, and by its slender first pair of legs, which are turned inwards, it resembles *C. mysticeti* and *C. ovalis*. On the other hand the last joint of the large hook-shaped limbs is at first continuous with the axis of the limbs, and then curves into a complete semicircle, and it thus approaches *Platycyamus Thompsoni*.

The male and female are of the same size. In the latter the ventral laminæ appear to be caducous. As the young which they shelter are developed they separate and spread outwards, so that the body of the animal at the level of the first three (free) segments acquires the form of a spherical hood, within which the young of very different sizes are in contact with the epidermis of the host upon which they already feed.—*Comptes Rendus*, October 29, 1888, p. 698.